Children & Families Commission



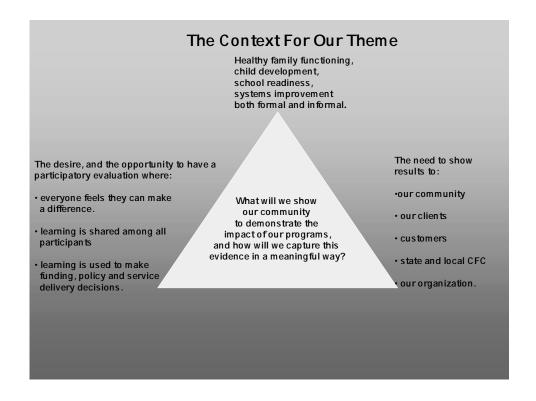
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On July 18, 2001 sixty-five people participated in an "Empowerment Evaluation Event" to kick off the development of a County Data Measurement Plan for Placer County's Prop. 10 efforts. The participants included all but 3 of our funded partners plus representation from other stakeholders. The basic concept of this evaluation initiative is that everyone involved in this effort can make a difference, and that the people who are in the best position to evaluate our efforts are those who actually deliver and receive services, not an outside evaluation firm.

During this event, people had a chance to talk with other partners in this new network to learn about the data that they plan to collect and to measure progress towards outcomes. Also, everyone received a copy of the "scope of work" for each contract currently funded by the Children and Families Commission. Each scope of work covers the overall anticipated results, strategies, performance measures and budgets for all the different contracts. Taken in its entirety, this aggregation of the varied results and strategies becomes a first year implementation plan for the County's "Integrated Plan for the Strategic Deployment of Proposition 10 Resources in Placer County."

The meeting participants convened several workshop type sessions in this 'Open Space' environment around the theme: What will we show our community to demonstrate the impact of our programs, and how will we capture this evidence in a meaningful way? This report is a compilation of the written reports from the sessions. The ideas from the sessions expand upon, but do not replace, the performance measures already identified in each partner contract.

It is time now to implement our strategies and collect our outcome data. In about three months we will again convene this network of partners to take a look at what the data collection process might be telling us and/or what we might have learned from the data as it relates to children 0-5 and their families.





Everyone wrote down the topic that the topic that were passionate about... they









And, in small groups, they came up with ideas on how to make it work.



Notes from Topics



TOPIC: Observation

CONVENER: Paul McIntyre

PARTICIPANTS: Michael Daves Alan Hayashi David Gray

Eugenio Garcia Jackie Knapp

DISCUSSION NOTES:

How to evaluate programs through observation techniques

Data Collection Partners:

PCC&FC grantee partners, program volunteers, county supervisors

Indicators We Will Track:

Personally observed changes in targeted behaviors and environments

Instruments We Will Use:

Still and video photography, taped recordings, written expressions

Recommendations/Actions:

- 1. Use various media to tell stories that record results, both positive and negative, of change on a desired target.
- 2. Arrange for an annual tour of PCC&FC projects by county supervisors so they can observe results.
- 3. Use observation methods to make mid-course and more frequent evaluation of projects so corrections can be made before they go down the wrong path too long.

TOPIC: How do we measure changes in parents' attitudes, skills and

behaviors?

CONVENER: Sharon Jenge

PARTICIPANTS: Michelle Fernandez Baldwin Debra King

Susan Money Johanna Hawthorne Jennifer Thomasson

Yolanda Mendevil Mike Height

DISCUSSION NOTES:

Data Collection Partners:

Tutor Totter Preschool and Daycare, Community Resource Council, Breastfeeding Coalition of Placer County, UCCE, Nutrition Coalition, Early Literacy Project, PCOE

Indicators We Will Track:

Parents' level of skills, experience and knowledge gained

Instruments We Will Use:

Self evaluations, observations, food recalls, testimonials, pre-post tests, focus groups, portfolios, photographs/videos, demographics, smart instruments

Recommendations/Actions:

Focus on these indicators as baseline measure that will be useful in looking at for long-term evaluation

TOPIC: Evidence of Medical Home

CONVENER: Jenny Foltz

PARTICIPANTS: Kathleen Shenk Carol Capper

DISCUSSION NOTES:

Explained the definition of medical home. If no insurance, assistance to obtain medical insurance. What's the importance of medical insurance? Provide reasons for tracking and how to track. Discussed family physicians vs. emergency room visits. Evidence of immunizations for all children, ages 2 and under.

Data Collection Partners:

Community Health

Indicators We Will Track:

Immunization records. Well baby check-Ups. Pre-natal care. Health insurance memberships. Doctor's name. Referrals to appropriate specialists.

Instruments We Will Use:

Charting after visit and in supervision. Discussion with family. Applications for health insurance. Discussion with Community Health partners. Look at immunization record.

Recommendations/Actions:

Lack of U.S. citizenship impact on obtaining services.

TOPIC: How to show observation/data collection results?

CONVENER: Jean Piette

PARTICIPANTS: Jeannette Lovejoy Darcy Roenspie Ruth Burgess

DISCUSSION NOTES:

Sutter Roseville has two separate projects. Childcare would like to be able to adjust or modify measurement tools if they are not proving to be helpful.

Data Collection Partners:

Sutter Roseville, PCOE Child Care, PCOE Special Education

Indicators We Will Track:

Effectiveness of support group; group home.

Number of participants, number of students, develop portfolios, photo journals, report number of accredited providers as a result of process.

Analysis of observations via video and applications to improve programming. Parent involvement, benefit.

Instruments We Will Use:

Survey form.

Data collection forms, anecdotal, SMART form

Statistical analysis tied in with existing grant

Parent input form

Recommendations/Actions:

Begin to implement when funds are available and adjust as needed.

TOPIC: Role Modeling: How do we capture as an evaluation indicator

CONVENER: Alan Hayashi

Participants Michaele Daves Debra Lambrecht, Jackie Kemp

Jill Harper Marguerite Baldwin Paul McIntyre Tamara Lieberman

Debra King Michelle Fernandez

DISCUSSION NOTES:

We discussed the idea of having peer nominations for role models. Discussion also revolved around the idea that organization, neighborhood, etc. should be considered as "role models" in a health environment. A question was raised as to how we should capture the "significance" or the effect of role modeling. I.e. the human spirit. The stories that are captured should show credible evidence.

Data Collection Partners:

Schools, parents, neighborhood associations, youth, businesses,

Indicators We Will Track:

Stories, personal testimonies, anecdotal stories,

Instruments We Will Use:

Focus groups, observational studies, interviews, site visits behavioral observations

Recommendations/Actions:

Focus on capturing the "human side" of the stories. Commit to a long-term perspective.

Assume that "role modeling" can be a person, organization, or institution.

TOPIC: Involving parents in evaluation

CONVENER: Phebe Bell

PARTICIPANTS: Glenda Chun Jane Hamilton Kathy

Shelli Eskaderi Debbie Wohler Susan Clark Barb Wilkinson
Maryanne Kemper Annie Toor Laurie Hiatt Tamara Lieberman

DISCUSSION NOTES:

Data Collection Partners:

Parents! Community members, collaborators

Indicators We Will Track:

Parent satisfaction; change as observed by parents, providers, community members; qualitative data – words instead of numbers

Instruments We Will Use:

Parent interviews, bulletin board for parent comments, site visits, focus groups

Recommendations/Actions:

Frame everything about evaluation in REAL language that parents can understand. Complete the circle – share findings back with parents (through celebrations, the media, written summaries and letters, forums). Have parents plan the evaluation process through focus groups – frame their input around making the program as great as possible for their child. Value parent feedback on the program and on their children's experiences as a credible evaluation.

TOPIC: Video Storytelling

CONVENER: Michaele Daves

PARTICIPANTS:Paula MurphyEugenio GarciaSharon JorgeMarguerite BaldwinSusan MoneyGlenda chunJackie Kampp

Tad Kitada Paul McIntyre Jennifer Thomasson

DISCUSSION NOTES:

This format benefits many different people. Video, disposable cameras, audio recordings were all discussed. Includes parents, teachers, youth. Great way to document the process, as well as, evaluate the results. The involvement encourages asset development in kids and adults!

Data Collection Partners:

We would want to collaborate with editing people. One idea was to go into film classes (High School level or college level) and ask for their assistance. We would also like to involve the media for coverage.

Indicators We Will Track:

Progress! The whole process

Instruments We Will Use:

Various recording equipment

Recommendations/Actions:

"Video Journaling", "experts" from each program to introduce and narrate their tape, add Prop. 10 story to tape, parental consent issues, use as a marketing tool, not just an evaluation.

TOPIC: Use diaries and journals in evaluation process

CONVENER: Tamara Lieberman

PARTICIPANTS: Debbie Wohler Maryann Kemper Annie Toor

Shelly Eskandari Barbara Welhern

DISCUSSION NOTES:

Use photos as well as journal/diary

Data Collection Partners:

Staff, parents, children, etc.

Indicators We Will Track:

Staff satisfaction, parents satisfaction, behavior changes, activities and variety

Instruments We Will Use:

Staff journal

Portfolio - can share with partners

Photos taken at different times along spectrum activities. Ask children, parents, staff, what was happening at the time – stories.

Diary

Recommendations/Actions:

Get photo release before taking photo

Use photo and diary/journal together

Use evaluation piece as a start of PR piece.

Have commissioners come on site

Have annual presentation by each participant or partner to each other, commission and

community.

TOPIC: **Increasing Educational Opportunities and Increase the**

Availability of Child Care Options

CONVENER: Jeannette Lovejoy

PARTICIPANTS: Darcy Roenspie Amy Gonnella Kathy Sutphen

> Jane Hamilton Sharon Junge

DISCUSSION NOTES:

Educational Opportunities, Mentoring, Home Visits, Nutrition Education, Pre-K Program, Teen Parenting, Parent Participation

Data Collection Partners:

Agencies, Child Care Providers, Parents, Community

Indicators We Will Track:

Participation, Improvement, Education, Services Accessed, Environments (differences made in the lives of children / improved family functioning / increase in the quality of care / assessments made to appropriate agencies)

Instruments We Will Use:

Pre/Post Assessment, Portfolios, Observation/Site visits, Outcome Screen

Recommendations/Actions:

Collaborate services for outreach and success of programs

TOPIC: Families telling their stories of improved self-sufficiency

CONVENER: Mental Health Collaborative Team-Jacquie Clark

Debbie Wohler **PARTICIPANTS:** Mary Ann Kemper

B. Wilkerson Jean Piette Annie Toor Theresa Leal Eugenio García Jackie Fisher Linda Zelhar

DISCUSSION NOTES:

How to develop a "portfolio" story, ideas for elements to include in a "portfolio" idea, how does this idea interpret with each participant's project, discussion on collaboration and program difficulties and solutions, other measurements to use for evaluation.

Data Collection Partners:

SMART Kings Beach Family Resource Center, Nutrition Program, Head Start, Infant Program, Family Coop Program, Chana High, PC Community Health

Indicators We Will Track:

Videotapes, photos, parent essays

Instruments We Will Use:

Parent portfolios or documented stories

Use Photos with the story

Photo journals

Record what worked as well as the "bloopers"

Recommendations/Actions:

Parent portfolios or documented stories

Use photos with the story

Photo journals

Record what worked as well as the "bloopers"

TOPIC: Show happy, healthy, confident children in a nurturing

environment through site visits.

CONVENER: Ruth Burgess, Susanne McCabe

PARTICIPANTS:Fiona TuttlePatsie FletcherPaula MurphyJennifer ThomassonPhebe BellMichael HaightSusan ClarkSusan MoneyGlenda ChunFelice LongwayShelley Eskandari

DISCUSSION NOTES:

We see the site visits and open houses as a way to gain experiential evaluations of the program, build community awareness, a learning experience for the agency and its program. Gives funders immediate contact with the program. Inviting sources of referral and "powerful" public officials. We see that it would be an important element in the CFC evaluation process. Issues that we need to keep in mind are privacy, confidentiality and the inability to control the media.

Data Collection Partners:

CFC, Community, other funders, program participants

Indicators We Will Track:

Measuring referrals, experiential, feedback, positive and negative

Instruments We Will Use:

SITE VISITS EVALUATIONS WITH WRITTEN FEEDBACK (Maybe creating one that everyone can use via the Children and Families web site).

PEER EVALUATIONS with other CFC partners

Recommendations/Actions:

Develop a standardized site visit evaluation form.

Have the CFC include site visits in evaluations.

Have the CFC make resources and referrals available at the six months evaluation for all funding recipients.

CFC Information Fair as awareness to attract volunteers/parent involvement.

Have a community luncheon affair (Cowell model).

TOPIC: Reporting Effects of Conflict Reduction via Education

CONVENER: Christine Trejo

PARTICIPANTS: Jeanette Lovejoy Carol Johnson Darcy Roenspie

DISCUSSION NOTES:

See Below

Data Collection Partners:

Family Law Facilitator's Office

Indicators We Will Track:

Demographics, Counseling programs attended, Investigations Ordered, Referrals to CPS, Number of Emergency Ex-Parte Hearings, Results prior and after attendance of the programs.

Instruments We Will Use:

S.M.A.R.T. Screening Forms, Scan Tron, Self Evaluations and Anecdotal documentation from both Clients & Staff

Recommendations/Actions:

Customize existing forms or create new forms to report information. Develop a summary report outline that tells the story of implementing the various aspects of this initiative. Contact appropriate parties for Scan Tron to determine if this tool will be effective for our purpose. (David Gray – Children & Families Commission)

TOPIC: Knowledge & Preparation Result in Understanding

CONVENER: Carol Johnson

PARTICIPANTS: Chris Trejo Laurie Hiatt

DISCUSSION NOTES:

Data Collection Partners:

Placer County Superior Court - High Conflict Calendar

Indicators We Will Track:

Frequency of filings, Case Number, Stipulations reached, demographics, number of people attending work shops, number of people checking out resource material.

Instruments We Will Use:

Scan Trons, personal evaluations, anecdotal from customers and other court staff

Recommendations/Actions:

Contact Scan Tron provider re: costs and format. Contact Children and Families Commission, David Gray for assistance with preparation of questions to use on scan tron

TOPIC: Use of the Learning Conversation in understanding outcome

data

CONVENER: Don Ferretti

PARTICIPANTS: Jill Harper Fiona Tuttle Phebe Bell

Michelle Fernandez Patsie Fletcher

DISCUSSION NOTES:

In order to actually use data from outcome screens and other measurement tools to inform policy and program decisions the people who use these tools must be able to understand what the data is telling them. This requires a pattern of conversation that allows people to reflect and learn not defend and posture. The "Focused Conversation" is a method developed by the Institute for Cultural Affairs that allows groups to reach deeper level of understanding. We all see parts of the picture filtered through our beliefs and life experience. It is through conversations where we learn and understand different perspectives that we might see the whole. The group agreed that building the learning conversation into the data analysis system will be essential if we are to realize a true outcome-oriented model where data informs decisions

Data Collection Partners:

Anyone who wants to convene stakeholders to understand what their data is telling them. This would include those who plan to use the Placer Outcome Screen but would not be limited just to that tool.

Indicators We Will Track:

The numbers of learning conversations that are held around data. Stories that tell about decisions that are made as a result of understanding data.

Instruments We Will Use:

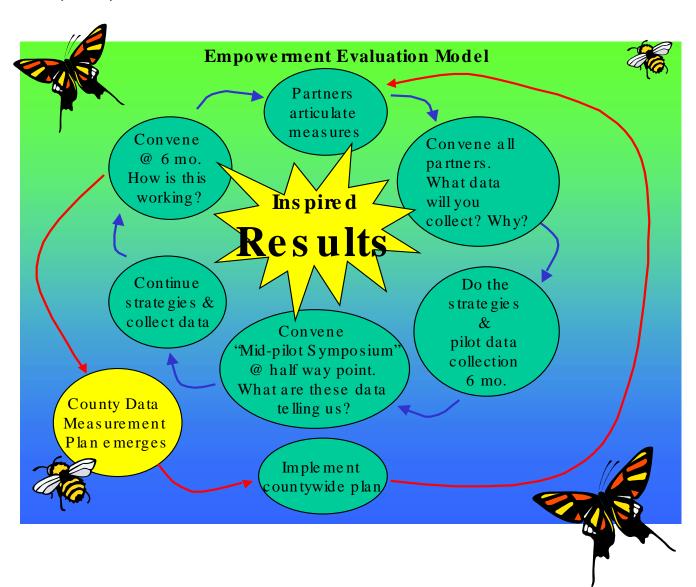
Two books explain the Focused Conversation Method and provide sample conversations. The books are: The Art of Focused Conversations for Schools and The Art of the Focused Conversations for the Workplace. The books were developed by the Institute for Cultural Affairs-Canada and may be ordered direct from New Society Publishers 800.567.6772 www.society.com or check the ICA Canada homepage at www.icacan.ca

Recommendations/Actions:

Don Ferretti and David Gray will convene any partners using the outcome screen in learning conversations to help understand the data. People using other types of methods such as the "Ages & Stages" can use the learning conversation as well. If this process adds value and there is enough interest, Don will arrange a training to be delivered by ICA to teach others how to facilitate the conversations.

Other Topics that were discussed, but notes were not turned in:

- 1. How will we show staff and parent involvement? Theresa, Paula Murphy, Jean Piette
- 2. Improved emergency transport services for children Mindy Danovaro
- 3. How to get parental buy-in to utilize services Jane, Barbara, Marguerite, Susanne, Theresa Leal, Kathy
- 4. Encourage caretakers to take part in the systems for preventative and enriching care rather than treatment. Patsie Fletcher, Fiona Tuttle
- 5. Observational video of all projects (using County Prop. 10 funds -with handouts) Jackie Kampp, Michelle, Glenda Chun
- 6. Integrated Systems of mental health services Patsie, Fiona, Jackie F., Jenny, Rick, Linda, Vicki, Annie, Jackie C.



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